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Letter dated 22 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward herewith the Ulaanbaatar Declaration issued upon the official visit of Mr. V. V. Putin, President of the Russian Federation, to Mongolia on 13 and 14 November 2000 (see annex).

I should be most grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 73.

(*Signed*) Jargalsaikhany **Enkhsaikhan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 22 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Ulaanbaatar Declaration

At the invitation of Mr. Natsagiin Bagabandi, President of Mongolia, the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Vladimir Putin, made an official visit to Mongolia on 13 and 14 November 2000.

The leaders of the two States held a thorough exchange of views on a broad range of questions concerning their bilateral relations and on international issues of mutual interest. The meetings and talks held in Ulaanbaatar between the leaders of Mongolia and the Russian Federation constitute an important stage in the development of the traditionally friendly relations between the two countries.

1. Mongolia and the Russian Federation reaffirm their commitment to the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Mongolia and the Russian Federation of 20 January 1993. They share an understanding that Mongolian-Russian cooperation in various areas in the new century must move forward in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law and equity, the principles of respect for sovereignty, equality of rights, mutual advantage and territorial integrity, and also on the basis of the traditions of friendship and good-neighbourliness built up over many decades.

Convinced of the need to build a multipolar structure for peace, and underscoring the special importance of the development of inter-State relations in Asia, without division into blocs, the parties reaffirm that they will not participate in any military-political unions directed against each other, and undertake not to conclude with third countries any treaties or agreements which are incompatible with the interests of the sovereignty and independence of the other party.

Neither party will allow its territory to be used by a third State for the purposes of aggression or any other act of force prejudicial to the sovereignty, security and public order of the other party.

2. The parties attach importance to the holding of regular meetings at the senior and high levels in the future and to cooperation between their government bodies, including within the framework of the Mongolian-Russian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

3. The parties welcome the development of regional and border contacts and will make efforts to develop the legal basis for further expanding and deepening them. The Mongolian side is interested in active cooperation with the regional structures of the Russian Federation, including the interregional association "Siberian Accord".

4. Noting that there exists significant potential for increased economic and trade cooperation, the Presidents of Mongolia and the Russian Federation instructed the respective organs of the executive authorities in their countries to consider, in a constructive spirit, questions relating to the liberalization and expansion of reciprocal trade, including the establishment of favourable railway rates, customs

duties and other charges, within the framework of the negotiations begun on these questions, with a view to completing them in 2001.

5. Considering economic cooperation with each other as an integral part of the regional cooperation being established in North-East Asia, Ulaanbaatar and Moscow attach great significance to the large-scale energy projects envisaged for the region in the twenty-first century — the installation of major gas and oil pipelines and power transmission lines. The Russian side is in favour of Mongolia's participation in such projects, taking into account the economic and geographic factors. The parties regard cooperation among the States members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in the field of transport as a very important trend and, in this connection, invite all the parties concerned to make use of the Mongolian railway system and the Trans-Siberian railroad with a view to optimizing transport routes between Europe and the Asia-Pacific region. The parties agreed to continue the trilateral expert consultations for the conclusion of a basic (framework) agreement on through carriage between Mongolia, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China, understanding, in this regard, the need to improve existing mechanisms in the field of through carriage at the national, bilateral and international levels.

6. The parties expressed their support for increasing the efficiency of and modernizing the major Mongolian-Russian joint enterprises — "Erdenet", "Mongolrostzvetmet" and "UBZHD", which constitute a vitally important part of the Mongolian economy. They also agreed to make every effort to encourage mutual investments through the creation of new joint enterprises on the basis of various forms of ownership, and also through the participation of business enterprises of the two countries in privatization projects in Mongolia and the Russian Federation. The parties deemed it appropriate to formulate a programme for the development of cooperation in the industrial field and resume mutually advantageous cooperation in developing Mongolian agricultural production.

7. The parties considered questions involving cooperation in the supply of Russian energy sources to Mongolia, taking into account the need to ensure its stability on the basis of yearly protocols on economic and trade cooperation.

8. Nature conservation and environmental security constitute an important area of cooperation between the two countries in the context of current global development. The parties will collaborate actively to prevent forest and steppe fires, natural disasters and potential technological catastrophes.

9. Mongolia and the Russian Federation are committed to preserving and strengthening the traditionally close spiritual and cultural ties between the peoples of the two countries. They will encourage contacts between people and between social, scientific, sport and youth organizations of the two countries. The Russian side will continue to provide assistance in the training of Mongolian national personnel in Russian higher educational establishments. The parties will support cooperation in the study of the Mongolian and Russian languages and of each other's historical and cultural heritage.

10. The parties agreed to entrust the appropriate ministries and departments with the task of further studying aspects of the liberalization of conditions for reciprocal travel by citizens, improving arrangements for issuing them with visas and

extending the range of persons to whom visas are issued without charge or for substantially lower fees.

11. Expressing their satisfaction at the strengthening of cooperation between the National Security Council of Mongolia and the Security Council of the Russian Federation, the parties were in favour of continuing their joint efforts and of coordinating their activities in the field of national and international security on the basis of the Protocol on cooperation between the Security Councils of the two countries.

12. The parties emphasized the importance of resuming military and military-technical cooperation, and of collaborating in the training of career personnel. Cooperation in those areas will take place in strict accordance with the international obligations of the parties.

13. Mongolia and the Russian Federation attach great importance to the work, which is in process of completion, of the joint Mongolian-Russian commission on inspection of the State frontier between Mongolia and the Russian Federation with a view to more accurately and clearly marking the frontier line, particularly in areas of intensive economic activity by the frontier populations of the parties.

14. The parties will carry out joint and coordinated activities by the law-enforcement, frontier and customs bodies and special services of the two countries in order to maintain good order on the Mongolian-Russian frontier, including cooperation to prevent acts of cattle rustling.

15. The parties noted their common or similar approaches to essential current issues, supported an increase in their cooperation in world affairs, and close collaboration with the United Nations and other international organizations. The parties noted with satisfaction the importance of the Millennium Summit, the decisions of which clearly emphasized the enduring significance of the Charter of the United Nations, the central role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security, and in the peaceful resolution of conflicts, and the importance of strengthening the foundations of international law. They consider that the challenges of the twenty-first century can be met only through the collective efforts of the international community to build a non-confrontational, stable and democratic legal order, taking into account national characteristics and the uniqueness of all peoples, and the wealth of national cultures and traditions.

16. The parties are in favour of enhancing the effectiveness and competence of the United Nations as the only international organization having the principal responsibility for ensuring peace and security. Mongolia and the Russian Federation will promote the Organization's transformation into the key instrument for the collective management of international relations. Mongolia and the Russian Federation have an interest in enhancing the effectiveness of the peacemaking machinery of the United Nations, regard political and diplomatic methods of crisis resolution as a priority and affirm their commitment to the principles of the primacy of international law. At the same time, the parties support the proposal of the Secretary-General of the United Nations concerning the need to move "from a culture of reaction to a culture of prevention" of armed conflicts. Mongolia and the Russian Federation will contribute to the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration.

They are in favour of adapting the United Nations to present-day realities without undermining its underlying principles, and of carrying out a rational reform of the Security Council on the basis of the broadest possible agreement among its members on all key aspects.

17. The parties exchanged opinions on the problem of globalization. They consider that the process of globalization is a fact of life with undoubted positive aspects which offer further opportunities for socio-economic progress and a broadening of human contacts. At the same time, serious efforts by the world community are essential in order to overcome new dangers to which globalization gives rise and which, in many cases, entail a widening of the differences in the level of well-being between the rich and the developing countries.

18. The parties welcome the affirmation, at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, of the obligation of nuclear-weapon States to take practical steps to ensure systematic and consistent efforts to achieve nuclear disarmament in accordance with article VI of the Treaty. The parties affirmed their commitment to strengthening the regime for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, expressed the hope that all States would accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and that negotiations on the prohibition of the production of fissionable material for nuclear weapons would be successful, and indicated the importance of complying with generally recognized international standards in carrying out national missile programmes.

19. Mongolia and the Russian Federation are in favour of further strengthening strategic and regional stability and attach importance to the early entry into force and full implementation of the START II Treaty and the conclusion of the START III Treaty, together with the retention and strengthening of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty as the cornerstone of strategic stability, and the basis for further reductions in nuclear weapons. Mongolia supports the efforts of the Russian Federation to prevent revision of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and expresses its concern at plans to deploy national or closed, bloc-based anti-ballistic missile systems. The implementation of such plans would have disastrous consequences for international peace and might lead to a resumption of the arms race from which the developing countries would be the first to suffer.

20. The Russian Federation affirms its commitment to the joint declaration by the five nuclear-weapon States on guarantees for the security of Mongolia in connection with its non-nuclear status. The Mongolian side expressed its appreciation to the Russian side for its efforts to confirm the non-nuclear status of Mongolia and to broaden international recognition thereof. The parties support the efforts of the countries of Central Asia to create in that region a nuclear-weapon-free zone and consider that, in conjunction with the non-nuclear status of Mongolia, those efforts facilitate the realization of the goals of strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime in the continent of Asia.

21. Mongolia supports the initiatives of Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin, on the holding, under the auspices of the United Nations, of an international conference on the prevention of the militarization of outer space next spring in Moscow in connection with the fortieth anniversary of the first space flight, and also

concerning the non-utilization of enriched uranium and pure plutonium in peaceful nuclear power generation.

22. Mongolia and the Russian Federation are in favour of closely coordinating the efforts of both countries on questions of peace, security and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. They take a positive view of the role of the ASEAN Regional Forum and express their intention to make a worthwhile contribution to its work. Full support was expressed for the official and informal structures for dialogue established within the Asia-Pacific region, and their importance for giving further impetus to multilateral activities to address current problems of regional security and cooperation was emphasized. The Russian Federation supports Mongolia's aspiration to become a member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. The parties noted especially the lack of any inter-State mechanism for security and cooperation questions in North-East Asia and expressed their support for increased dialogue through all channels with a view to its establishment.

Mongolia and the Russian Federation welcome the outcome of the inter-Korean summit meeting held in Pyongyang from 13 to 15 June 2000 and hope that the process of reconciliation and cooperation on the Korean peninsula will develop further. They are convinced that the maintenance of peace and stability on the Korean peninsula is a major precondition for stability in North-East Asia and in the Asia-Pacific region as a whole. In that context, they were opposed to any unilateral or multilateral actions that might give rise to mutual mistrust between States in that part of the world.

23. The Russian side informed the Mongolian side about the aims, tasks and activities of the Shanghai Forum as an organization open to broad-based international cooperation. The Mongolian side expressed interest in the work of the Forum and said that it would look into the possibility of becoming involved in its work in some form.

24. The parties confirm their aspiration to join forces to oppose international terrorism, religious extremism and national separatism, which threaten regional security, stability and development, and also such forms of criminal activity as illicit trafficking in arms and narcotics and illegal migration.

25. The parties affirm that the Declaration is not directed against any other State or group of States, or against their rights.

26. Russian Federation President Putin expressed appreciation for the cordial welcome received in Ulaanbaatar and invited Mongolian President Bagabandi to visit the Russian Federation at a time convenient to him. The invitation was gratefully accepted.

Ulaanbaatar, 14 November 2000

[*Signed*] N. **Bagabandi**
President of Mongolia

[*Signed*] V. V. **Putin**
President of the Russian Federation